



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/751,401	01/06/2004	Ya-Wen Hsu	3319-0116P	3196
2292	7590	03/14/2006	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			LEVI, DAMEON E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2841	

DATE MAILED: 03/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/751,401

Applicant(s)

HSU ET AL.

Examiner

Dameon E. Levi

Art Unit

2841

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 12 is objected to because of the following informalities: a method claim (12) refers to and is dependent from an apparatus claim ((1)). Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-17, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Biermann et al US Patent 6018461.

Regarding claim 1, Biermann et al discloses a card apparatus comprising:

a circuit member(element 15, Figs 1-5) having a main portion(element 26, Figs 1-5) and an RF portion(element 27, Figs 1-5), a rear end of said main portion connecting to a connector and a front end of said main portion connecting to said RF portion;

a first top surface member(element 14, Figs 1-5) enclosing a top surface of said main portion of said circuit member;

a second top surface member (element 16, Figs 1-5) engaged with said first top surface member for enclosing said RF portion of said circuit member;

Art Unit: 2841

and a bottom surface member (element 13, Figs 1-5) enclosing a bottom surface of said circuit member by securing to said first top surface member and said second top surface member, said bottom surface member having a recess to engage with said first top surface member to form an opening adaptable to said connector(element 20, Figs 1-5).

Regarding claim 2, Biermann et al discloses wherein said bottom surface member is made of plastic(elements 13, 21, Figs 1-5).

Regarding claim 3, Biermann et al discloses wherein said first top surface member is made of metal(element 14, Figs 1-5).

Regarding claim 4, Biermann et al discloses wherein said first top surface member is made of electromagnetic wave impenetrable material(element 14, Figs 1-5).

Regarding claim 5, Biermann et al discloses wherein said second top surface member is made of plastic(element 16, Figs 1-5).

Regarding claim 6, Biermann et al discloses wherein a front end of said bottom surface member is formed with a through hole(element 43, Figs 1-5).

Regarding claim 7, Biermann et al discloses further comprising one or more indicating light(element 140,142 Figs 1-5).

Regarding claim 8, Biermann et al discloses wherein said bottom surface member further comprises: a plurality of ribs formed as a single unit with said bottom surface(elements 21', Figs 1-5).

Regarding claim 9, Biermann et al discloses wherein said connector is compatible with one or more PCMCIA standards(column 2, lines 40-54).

Art Unit: 2841

Regarding claim 10, Biermann et al discloses wherein said circuit member is a printed circuit board(element 15, Figs 1-5).

Regarding claim 11, Biermann et al discloses wherein said circuit member comprises:

a first circuit member(element 26, Figs 1-5) within said main portion;

a primary electronic component(element 110, Figs 1-5) arranged on said first circuit member;

a second circuit member(element 27, Figs 1-5). being within said RF portion and electrically connected to said first circuit member; and

a RF transceiver (element 100, Figs 1-5)arranged on a area of said second circuit member for not overlapping with said first circuit member.

Regarding claim 12, as best understood by the Office, the methods disclosed therein are deemed as being inherent in the assembly of the card apparatus recited therein since every element used in the assembly is taught or suggested in the prior art (Biermann et al).

Regarding claim 13, Biermann et al disclose an apparatus comprising:

first circuit member(element 26, Figs 1-5); a primary electronic component (element 110, Figs 1-5) arranged on said first circuit member;

a second circuit member (element 27, Figs 1-5)electrically connected to said first circuit member; and a RF transceiver (element 100, Figs 1-5)arranged on a area of said second circuit member for not overlapping with said first circuit member.

Regarding claim 14, Biermann et al discloses wherein said first circuit member

Art Unit: 2841

is a multi-layer printed circuit board (elements 15', 38,39, Fig 5) having a metallic grounding layer (element 114, Figs 1-5) extending along a whole area of said first circuit member.

Regarding claim 15, Biermann et al discloses wherein said second member is a multi-layer printed circuit board with fewer layers (elements 15',39, Fig 5) than those of said first printed circuit board.

Regarding claim 16, Biermann et al discloses wherein said second circuit member is a multi-layer printed circuit board without a metallic grounding layer(elements 15',39, Fig 5).

Regarding claim 17, Biermann et al discloses wherein said second circuit member is a single-layer printed circuit board(elements 27 Figs 1-5).

Regarding claim 19, Biermann et al discloses further comprising:
a connector(elements 32, Figs 1-5) for connecting said first and second circuit members.

Regarding claim 20, Biermann et al discloses wherein said connector is compatible with one or more PCMCIA standards(column 2, lines 40-54).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Biermann et al US Patent 6018461 in view of Maruyama et al US Patent 6882541.

Regarding claim 18, Biermann et al discloses the instant claimed invention except wherein said second circuit member is a flat cable.

Maruyama et al discloses a card apparatus wherein a second circuit member is a flat cable(elements 4, Fig 1).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used a flat cable as a circuit member as taught by Maruyama et al in the card apparatus as taught by Biermann as flat cables provide for flexibility of the card once assembled so as to prevent breakage or damage of the card apparatus(see Maruyama et al, Abstract).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dameon E. Levi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2105. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. (9:00 - 5:00).


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2841

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dameon E Levi
Examiner
Art Unit 2841

DEL



DAMEON E. LEVI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800